

This Week in Washington

Pombo Supports Unprecedented Retirement Protection Tailored Investments and Strategies for Employees

Congressman Richard Pombo voted yesterday in support of the **Pension Security Act**, legislation that would present a myriad of protections for retirement investment options. The bill, approved by a bipartisan margin of 271-157, better informs workers about their retirement investment options. It also makes businesses more accountable to their employees and corporations more accountable to their most valuable investors.

In addition, the **Pension Security Act** ensures all workers have access to quality advice about investment strategies, diversification and risks. There are several key provisions that help workers plan for their futures including:

- Grants workers new freedoms to diversify their retirement savings within three years
- Expands worker access to investment advice that can help them manage their retirement accounts
- Empowers workers to hold company insiders accountable for abuses
- Gives workers better information about their pensions

"I applaud the House for approving this legislation and doing so in a bipartisan fashion," Pombo said. "Today's vote will help make sure that pension and retirement-saving systems work the way they should - to provide a comfortable, secure retirement."

The Facts About Business Information Centers

Business Information Centers, or BICs, are one-stop locations for information, counseling and technical assistance designed to help entrepreneurs start, operate and grow their businesses. Typically BICs operate under the direction of local U.S. Small Business Administration district offices. Private-sector cosponsors, Service Corps of Retired Executives volunteers, and representatives from local small business development centers, chambers of commerce and other educational or business-related organizations assist in the operation of the centers and in providing services to clients. The centers provide free on-site counseling along with training courses and workshops. BICs have resources for addressing a broad variety of business start-up and development issues. They can provide the tools and advice necessary to help you write a comprehensive business plan, evaluate and improve your marketing and sales techniques, diversify into new product and/or service areas, price your products, or explore exporting opportunities. The research tools and invaluable advice can help your new business get off the ground or help your existing business grow.

Inquire at your local SBA office for the location nearest you.

California Business Development Center Phone: 916-262-3200

Information Provided by the Small Business Administration

SBA Loans in the 11th Congressional District

7(A) Loans - 11th Congressional District

2002: 129 loans for \$41,297,000

2003 YTD: 91 loans for \$14,337,000

504 Loans - 11th Congressional District

2002: 37 loans for \$19,937,000

2003 YTD: 22 loans for \$12,090,000

Information provided by the SBA Small Business Fact Sheet—California

Congressman Richard W. Pombo
11th District, California
2411 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-1947
www.pombo.house.gov

Hindsight is 20/20

Americans are catching on to the liberal media bias, especially after watching coverage of the war in Iraq. According to an article written by Dick Morris for the New York Post, TV viewership for CBS dropped 15 percent, ABC's fell 6 percent, and NBC gained only 3 percent. What did these networks have in common? The doom and gloom reporting of the war, followed by pessimistic predictions and little support. On the other hand, viewership for the cable news networks rose, with Fox topping off a whopping 236 percent gain.

These stations had a tendency to feature their embedded journalists who reported the surprisingly easy advancement of the war, and the optimistic outcome. Perhaps the old guard of liberal journalism on the public airwaves will be rooted out the good old fashion way – supply and demand.

Information provided by gop.gov.

Poll - Jobs & Growth

FOX just completed a survey on whether Americans favor or oppose the following:

Tax cuts for businesses if based on the number of new jobs that business created:

Favor 65% Oppose 23%

On Taxes, Agree More With:
Rep. 42% Dem. 36%

Would Do More To Improve Your Family's Financial Situation Now:

**Additional tax cuts 31%
Reducing federal spending 44%**